deployed on duty after normal office hours. This is paid at Rs. 35/- per meal, per employee and at Rs. 15/- towards light refreshment per employee.

(c) The details are as below:—

Details of meal charge paid to MTNL employees

(in Rs.)

Sl. No.	General Manager (Unit)	Amount
1.	GM (East), MTNL Delhi	1,17,844
2.	GM (South-I), MTNL Delhi	1,76,922
3.	GM (Transmission), MTNL Delhi	1,55,636
4.	GM (Central), MTNL Delhi	5,38,409
5.	GM (North-II), MTNL Delhi	32,620
6.	GM (Headquarter), MTNL Delhi	32,295
7.	GM (Trans-Yamuna), MTNL Delhi	2,08,761
8.	GM (LD), MTNL Delhi	1,46,125
9.	GM (South-II), MTNL Delhi	25,12,760
10.	GM (West-II), MTNL Delhi	13,500

(d) Meal charge is paid only under special circumstances where an employee is required to perform duty beyond his normal duty hours.

Payment of local TA to the employees

†1919. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that group A,B,C and D employees of MTNL, Delhi are being paid local TA besides payment of transport allowance;

(b) if so, the amount paid on account of TA/DA from the 1st April 2000 to 31st January, 2002, category-wise, in respect of each office of the General Manager; and

(c) the details of the steps being taken by Government to reduce such wasteful expenditures?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Local TA is paid to the employees who have to travel away more than 8 Km from their office in connection with their official work.

(b) As per Statement-I-Delhi and Statement-II-Mumbai. (*See* below).

(c) The expenditure has been incurred in the interest of service.

Statement-I

GM-wise amount paid as T.A./D.A. from 1st April, 2000 to 31st January, 2002 in Delhi Unit

(in Rs.)

Unit (GM-Wise)	Amount paid on account of TA/DA			
	Group 'A'	Group 'B'	Group 'C'	Group 'D'
Long Distance	—	1,16,963	1,02,074	2,415
South-II	35,979	47,971	1,23,354	32,554
Transmission	—	40,16,269	24,655	11,473
North-I	16,499	7,24,523	13,88,556	20,569
Project Management	33,000	17,99,003	1,37,11,063	1,26,00,306
Building Works	51,632	3,17,910	3,27,705	2,741
Head Quarter	1,38,185	43,02,650	72,350	15,100
Trans Yamuna	38,380	3,20,451	3,72,705	17,768
West-II	1,34,245	3,35,750	6,71,077	2,01,450
South-I	10,770	1,93,390	23,80,187	72,380
Mobile Services	300	4,311	8,216	504
West-I	59,555	2,97,774	7,14,658	89,333
East	12,413	1,29,622	84,908	30,208
Central	5980	81,811	92,746	9,455
North-II	24963	77,639	1,09,235	26,012
TOTAL:	5,61,901	1,27,66,037	2,01,83,489	1,31,32,358
GRAND TOTAL:	4,66,43,785			

Statement-II

G.M.-wise amount paid as T.A./D.A. in Mumbai Unit

(in Rs.)

Unit (GM-Wise)	Group'A'	Group'B'	Group'C'	Group'D'
1. North	—	—	—	—
2. South	—	—	—	—
3. Central	—	—	—	—
4. West-I	—	9,450	15,705	—
5. West-II	—	5,225	13,673	1,499
6. West-III	—	—	—	—
7. East-I	—	—	—	—
8. East-II	—	78,028	6,45,606	3,66,825
9. NM (Navi Mumbai)	—	—	61,992	—
10. IP (Internal Planning)	—	—	16,00,651	—
11. EP (External Planning	—	1,08,410	13,61,922	—
12. Transmission	—	1,87,641	9,64,067	—
13. MA (Material Account)	2,782	16,102	—	—
TOTAL:	2,782	4,04,856	46,63,616	3,68,324
GRAND TOTAL:	54,39,578			

Taking away of official belongings by MTNL officers

†1920. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that some officers while leaving the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited or for attending a training programme have taken away with them the items like vehicle, mobile phone, computer and furniture etc.;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when, Government would recover the cost of these items from the above mentioned officers?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.